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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. In March 1952, the Union for Defense (Svaz Brannosti), after having been dissolved in 1948, was set up once again. Officially, the object of this organization, as well as that of the Union for Cooperation with the Army (Svazarm), is to educate the youth in bearing arms. This training is, in fact, an important part of the organization's work, but its chief aim is to educate the youth politically. Candidates for the StB and SNB are also taken from its ranks.
2. Several Union for Defense officials, who were soldiers and pilots from Brno, all convinced Communists, came to Varnsdorf in March 1952. They organized mass recruitment in factories in Varnsdorf and Liberec, sending men recruiters to plants where women workers predominated and vice versa. In Liberec, the campaign had no success, and in June 1952 the Liberec branch of the Union collapsed completely.
3. In Varnsdorf, where the Union has sufficient funds to gain popularity with the youth, the recruitment was successful. A building was allotted to the Union and has been equipped as a "home away from home" for young people. It has a reading room, gymnasium, club rooms and various rooms for card games.
4. The boys and girls of the Union meet every day except Sunday. Meetings are intended to last two hours each, but they often go on much longer. Political schooling is the main activity and must be accomplished before other subjects can be taken up. Training is given every day for at least one hour and includes Marxism and special lectures by SNB and StB representatives on such subjects as recognizing foreign and domestic enemies, carrying out sabotage in factories (with illustrations) and the acquisition of military information. Physical training is also given every day for at least one hour. It includes instruction in military activities such as signalling, taking cover in open country and training with arms.
5. The local branches of the Union are divided into teams averaging between 15 and 20 members. With each team goes one StB agent, who thus has a good opportunity to test the ideas and character of the members of the group. The best are given

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permanent employment with the StB, while the less intelligent ones go to the SNB. The boys and girls who are politically most conscious and in the best physical condition are chosen for the Sokol Paracodbor (Parachute Corps). After the usual basic training, the Sokol parachutists of Varnsdorf were trained on the Liberec airfield. These parachutists are given everything they can possibly need for training.

6. The Union for Defense is said to be best organized in Brno.

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